

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: March 11, 2013
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

Council Requests for Information/Council Business

- *Ad hoc Committee for Responsible Contracting* – The Council's Ad hoc Committee for Responsible Contracting will meet again on March 25th at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers with special guest speaker Lelah Campo from the Associated Builders & Contractors of Connecticut.

Major Projects and Initiatives

- *Mansfield Tomorrow* – Approximately 70 residents attended the Mansfield Tomorrow Community Visioning workshop and about 20 attended the open house at EO Smith High School on Saturday, March 9th. Participants were encouraged to prepare a vision statement for Mansfield. They provided feedback about the goals in the Mansfield 2020 Strategic Plan and the 2006 Plan of Conservation and Development (PoCD), and looked at the Planned Development Areas Map from the 2006 PoCD and provided input on what they would like to see as the Town moves forward. The workshop is just one way that residents will be asked to provide their input as the Town moves forward with updating the plan and rewriting its zoning and subdivision regulations. Residents are encouraged to visit the website and provide feedback via the virtual town hall "mindmixer" and to stay in communication with staff and the advisory group as the project progresses. The power point from the workshop will be on the website by early next week.
- *Storrs Center Construction Update* – The current focus of construction at One Royce Circle is on the interior while exterior work continues as weather permits. One Royce Circle will face the Town Square and will feature commercial uses on the first floor and residential apartments on the upper floors. This building is expected to open in August 2013. Work has begun on the south end of the project with demolition of three small buildings and site preparation for the construction of a grocery store. In addition, I have arranged for a project update for the Town Council for your April 8, 2013 meeting. Questions may be directed to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership (storrscenterinfo@mansfieldct.org or 860.429.2740). The Partnership continues to maintain a construction website for updates at <http://storrscenterconstruction.blogspot.com>.

Departmental Reports

- *Emergency Management* – In recognition of community efforts to improve survival from sudden cardiac arrest, the Town of Mansfield has been re-designated a HEARTSafe Community by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health's Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program and the Office of Emergency Medical Services. Special thanks to Fire Marshal Fran Raiola for coordinating the Town's application for this re-designation!
- *Facilities Management* – New energy efficient boilers have been installed at the Mansfield Town Hall. These small condensing boilers use natural gas or propane and are 97% efficient compared to a standard boiler which is 60% efficient. Use of the new boilers is expected to reduce the building's natural gas usage by 30-40%.
- *Town Manager's Office*
 - *2011-2012 Annual Report* – The 2011-2012 annual report has been posted [online](#) on the Town Manager's page and is available in hard copy at the Mansfield Public Library, Mansfield Senior Center, Mansfield Community Center, Town Clerk's Office, and Town Manager's Office.

- *MORE Commission* – I have signed up to be a member of the Municipal Opportunities & Regional Efficiencies (M.O.R.E) Commission and have been selected to be a member of the Municipal Tax Authority sub-committee. The sub-committee will hold its first meeting this Thursday, March 14, 2013. With an emphasis on cost efficiency through regional collaboration, the MORE Commission will look for ways to put into law some of the efficiencies it identified in 2010, including regionalizing some of the functions of local government and other entities. The Commission will review potential legal obstacles, models for regional entities and how to track and evaluate these initiatives. Four working groups have been created as subcommittees of the Commission: Municipal Tax Authority, Board of Education Functions, Regional Entities and Mandates. For additional information about the MORE Commission, please visit <http://www.housedems.ct.gov/MORE/index.asp>.

Special Events and Activities

- *Library Program* – Come to the Mansfield Library after school on Thursday March 14th from 4:00-5:00 PM for "Touch, Taste and Learn about Passover Symbols," part of our continuing series of Holidays and Special Days programs for kids. Merle Potchinsky will present this interactive introduction to the Passover Seder, with an opportunity to taste, touch and learn about the cultural and historical significance of this special meal. All ages are welcome. For more information check our online calendar, or call the Library at 860 423-2501.
- *Solarize Connecticut* – The towns of Mansfield and Windham, along with Bridgeport, Canton and Coventry have been selected through a competitive process to participate in Solarize Connecticut, a state-sponsored program through the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority that combines coordinated town education and outreach efforts with a tiered pricing offer from a pre-selected installer to significantly increase residential solar applications. The more residents and businesses that participate in the program, the more the price drops, with all residents and businesses receiving the lowest possible price for their installation no matter when they sign up for the program. However, residents and businesses must sign a contract by July 12, 2013 to qualify. C-TEC Solar is the designated and competitively selected solar installer for the towns of Mansfield and Windham, chosen for their quality reputation, customer reviews and competitive tiered pricing. The towns of Mansfield and Windham, working jointly, are hosting a Solarize Mansfield-Windham Kick-Off Solar Workshop this evening, March 11, 2013. The next Solarize Mansfield-Windham workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Buchanan Auditorium. For additional information about Solarize Mansfield-Windham, please contact Ginny Walton at waltonvd@mansfieldct.org or call at 860-429-3333. Those interested can contact the installer, C-TEC Solar, by calling 860-217-0383.

Future Agendas

- Future agenda items include an update concerning future phases of Storrs Center and a review of the charge to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 11:45 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Traffic Authority Meeting, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 3:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town-University Relations Committee, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Historic District Commission, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Transportation Advisory Committee, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, Executive Council, Wednesday, March 13, 2013, 2:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Zoning Board of Appeals, Wednesday, March 13, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

- Playground Committee, Thursday, March 14, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Thursday, March 14, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, Monday, March 18, 2013, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning & Zoning Commission, Monday, March 18, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Human Services Advisory Committee, Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 2:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Cemetery Committee, Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 3:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Conservation Commission, Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Community Campus Partnership, Thursday, March 21, 2013, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Responsible Contracting Sub-Committee, Monday, March 25, 2013, 9:00 AM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Traffic Authority, Tuesday, March 26, 2013, 10:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Economic Development Commission, Thursday, March 28, 2013, 5:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Special Town Council Meeting**, Budget Workshop, Thursday, March 28, 2013, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning & Zoning Commission, Monday, April 1, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Special Town Council Meeting**, Budget Workshop, Monday, April 1, 2013, 6:30 PM, Community Room, Mansfield Community Center
- Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Agriculture Committee, Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, Wednesday, April 3, 2013, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, Thursday, April 4, 2013, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Public Information Session on the Manager's Proposed Budget**, Thursday, April 4, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, Monday, April 8, 2013, 5:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, Monday, April 8, 2013, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Public Hearing on the Budget**, Monday, April 8, 2013, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, Monday, April 8, 2013, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*